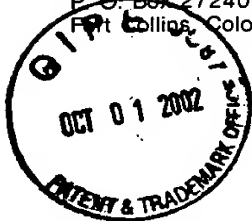


HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400



#12 RCEC3
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PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10001074-1

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Mark A. Smith et al.

Confirmation No.: 2505

Application No.: 09/839,385

Examiner: Michael P. Nghiem

Filing Date: April 20, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2861

Title: INK CONTAINER CONFIGURED TO ESTABLISH RELIABLE FLUIDIC CONNECTION TO A RECEIVING STATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) 37 CFR 1.114

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under CFR 1.114 of the above-identified applicaiton.

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.114 is effective on May 20, 2000. If the above- application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under CFR 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

Submission under 37 CFR 1.114

() Previously submitted:

() Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

() Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.

() Other _____.

(X) Enclosed:

(X) Amendment/Reply

() Affidavit(s)/Declarations(s)

() Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

() Other _____.

Miscellaneous

() Suspension of action is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months.
The fee for this Suspension is (37 CFR 1.17(i)) \$130.00

() Other _____.

10/03/2002 CNGUYEN 00000039 082025 09839385

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(X) RCE filing fee \$740.00

(X) A Petition for Extension of Time

(X)	one month	\$110.00
()	two months	\$400.00
()	three months	\$920.00
()	four months	\$1440.00

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of \$850.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **08-2025** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account **08-2025** under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees.

(X) A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

(X) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. Date of Deposit: Sept. 23, 2002
OR

() I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number _____ on _____

Number of pages:

Typed Name: Matthew B. McNutt

Signature: 

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Smith et al.

By 

Matthew B. McNutt

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **39,766**

Date: **Sept. 23, 2002**

Telephone No.: **(512) 343-7440**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark A. Smith et al.

Filed: Herewith

Docket No.: 10001074-1

Title: INK CONTAINER CONFIGURED TO ESTABLISH RELIABLE FLUIDIC
CONNECTION TO A RECEIVING STATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir/Madam:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies the Request for Continuing Examination filed herewith, and is responsive to the Advisory Action mailed August 28, 2002. Please amend the above-identified patent applications as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 10 and 16 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A replaceable ink container for providing ink to an inkjet printing system, the inkjet printing system having a receiving station for receiving the replaceable ink container, the receiving station having a fluid inlet and a sealing structure, the replaceable ink container comprising:

a reservoir defining a fluid outlet and a sealing surface proximate the fluid outlet; and
a sealing material contained within the reservoir for wetting the sealing surface, the sealing material including solid particles held in a suspension, solidification of the solid particles between the sealing surface and the sealing structure acting to seal defects between the sealing surface and the sealing structure.

2. (Amended) The replaceable ink container of claim 1 wherein the solid particles are pigment particles.

3. (Amended) The replaceable ink container of claim 1 wherein the solid particles are carbon black particles.